

# EXODUS: GOD'S WAY FORWARD

## Living Out Renewal

*<sup>1</sup>Now Jethro, the priest of Midian and father-in-law of Moses, heard of everything God had done for Moses and for his people Israel, and how the Lord had brought Israel out of Egypt.*

*<sup>5</sup>Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, together with Moses' sons and wife, came to him in the wilderness, where he was camped near the mountain of God. (Exodus 18:1,5)*

### How can we live out spiritual renewal for the long term?

- ▶ We work smart

*<sup>13</sup>The next day Moses took his seat to serve as judge for the people, and they stood around him from morning till evening. <sup>14</sup>When his father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the people, he said, "What is this you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit as judge, while all these people stand around you from morning till evening?" (Exodus 18:13,14)*

*<sup>17</sup>Moses' father-in-law replied, "What you are doing is not good. <sup>18</sup>**You and these people** who come to you will only **wear yourselves out**. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone. (Exodus 18:17,18)*

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"I do not mean to make an idol of health, but it does seem to me that at least some of us have made an idol of exhaustion. The only time we know we have done enough is when we are running on empty and when the ones we love most are the ones we see the least. When we lie down to sleep at night, we offer our full appointment calendars to God in lieu of prayer, believing that God -- who is as busy as we are -- will surely understand."

▶ **We work smart . . .**

◦ **Keep \_first\_ things \_first\_**

*<sup>19</sup>Listen now to me and I will give you some advice, and may God be with you. You must be the people's representative before God and bring their disputes to him. <sup>20</sup>Teach them his decrees and instructions, and show them the way they are to live and how they are to behave. (Exodus 18:19,20)*

◦ **Work \_through\_ people, not just \_for\_ people**

*<sup>21</sup>But select capable men from all the people—men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain—and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. (Exodus 18:21)*

▶ **We live out our \_Core\_ \_Values\_**

- \_Hungry\_ Hearts
- \_Attentive\_ Eyes
- \_Linked\_ Arms
- \_Open\_ Hands
- \_God-sized\_ Footprint

*<sup>23</sup>If you do this and God so commands, you will be able to stand the strain, and all these people will go home satisfied.” <sup>24</sup>Moses listened to his father-in-law and did everything he said. (Exodus 18:23,24)*